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BEHAVIORAL HEALTH SERVICES

BHS UPDATE

DATE: June 18, 2021

TO: Members of the County of Orange Behavioral Health Advisory Board

FROM: Jeffrey A. Nagel, Ph.D.
Behavioral Health Director

SUBJECT: Behavioral Health Services (BHS) Update for June 2021

Adult and Older Adult Behavioral Health Services (AOABH)

Residential Treatment Services: The **Phoenix House** has temporarily suspended services for their clinically managed withdrawal management program due to staffing issues. Services are anticipated to resume in June.

HCA currently has 10 providers that are certified to provide **Drug Medi-Cal residential treatment**: Two (2) residential programs are available for AB109 clients as well as the unfunded, six (6) recovery residences and four (4) clinically managed withdrawal management programs. Orange County is proactively seeking a program to provide medically managed withdrawal management services. At this time, clients are assessed and referred to College Hospital if they meet medical necessity. During the pandemic, programs shortened their capacity to address the need to quarantine if needed. As the number of positive cases have been decreasing and providers are implementing testing protocols for COVID-19, more beds are becoming available.

Outpatient Services: Outpatient Substance Use Disorder (SUD) Clinics continue to provide treatment within several levels of care: Intensive Outpatient, Outpatient Drug Free and Recovery Maintenance Services as well as Medication Assisted Treatment and Narcotic Treatment Program. These programs continue to remain open, accepting new referrals and providing on-site services. The County has eight contracted SUD providers: KCS, PES, Phoenix House, Twin Town and Wel-Mor Psychology, Recovery Solutions-Acadia, StepHouse and Western Pacific. Cumulatively, there are 18 clinic locations serving clients with SUD treatment needs in Orange County. The Contract Providers serve over 2,750 clients on average per month, with nearly 70% receiving MAT/NTP services. Our providers continue to have access to **SUD Peer Mentoring Program** as additional supportive services with system navigation for referrals and linkages to ancillary services and community reintegration. County is expanding the **ART Team** to meet the demand and be able to provide assessments appointments by the next business day. The County is also working on providing Medication Assisted Treatment (MAT) to County Clinics and plan to open an RFP for this service in the next months.

Collaborative Services: The Assisted Outpatient Treatment (AOT) program, also known as Laura's Law, provides court ordered treatment services for a person with mental illness who meets specific criteria. As of June 2021, an AB 109 screener is available on-site at the Probation office in Laguna Hills to provide screenings and linkage and increase collaboration. As of 5/26/21 the **Mental Health Collaborative Courts, Adult FSP Coordination, AB 109** and **Prop. 47** county teams moved to 401 W. Civic Center Dr. in Santa Ana.

Older Adults: Older Adult Services programs had a 36% increase in admissions over the previous month. While all field and office visits in all OAS programs continue to increase gradually, many OAS services are still being conducted telephonically. This is a result of ongoing hesitance and limited access to technology to access services through a telehealth format. HCA is planning a pilot that will issue iPads to clients that are experiencing barriers in service due to technology gaps in order to facilitate telehealth appointments. In addition, we are beginning to plan for the Clubhouse to re-open with activities on the patio and other outdoor activities.

OASIS has been transitioning to more to face-to-face sessions. For May, OASIS offered an Art Group on Acceptance and conducted two workshops to members for Mental Health Awareness Month.

Crisis Services: College Hospital Crisis Stabilization Unit (CSU) census has increased to 11 recliners as of 6/14/21. The bed board has been implemented at the **County CSU** in partnership with UCLA Chorus. Starting 6/23/21, BHS will begin the bed board implementation with College Hospital CSU and will then schedule dates with Exodus CSU shortly after. Once all CSU data is in the OC Links system, BHS will be working on the **Law Enforcement Bed Board**, which will be available to all Law Enforcement at all times so the recliner availability in the community is always known.

The **Adult In Home Crisis Stabilization** program relaunched the **Silver Treehouse** on 5/1/21 and is now seeing a steady source of referrals for clients 50 and over. All **PERT** teams are back in the cars with Law Enforcement (LE) and we are working on expanding our PERT services to LE partners.

Children, Youth and Prevention Behavioral Health Services (CYPBHS)

HCA renewed the **Specialty Mental Health Services** contracts for **Short-Term Residential Therapeutic Programs (STRTPs)** with Olive Crest, New Alternatives, Inc., Mary’s Shelter, Childhelp, Inc., and Hart Community Homes for Fiscal Year 21-22. The STRTPs are utilized for the placement of children, youth and Non-Minor Dependents, ages 6 through 21, who are wards of the court through Social Services Agency (SSA) or Juvenile Probation. The overarching goal of the STRTPs is to provide trauma-informed therapeutic interventions and integrated programming designed to address barriers to a youth’s ability to safely transition and reside in a home-based family setting in support of permanency.

Mental Health Services Act (MHSA) Coordination

Drawing upon an extensive community engagement process involving nearly 9,000 survey respondents and approximately 350 focus group participants, a few changes are being proposed for the **MHSA Annual Plan Update for FY 21-22**. Some of these updates include providing digital literacy and digital health literacy training and technical assistance for consumers and providers; facility improvements for some of our older BHS clinic locations; and expanding, enhancing and/or continuing community outreach and awareness campaigns. The Plan also includes funding for a new **Office of Suicide Prevention**, per the direction from the BOS. The 30-day public comment period closed on 6/1/21, the Public Hearing was held on 6/10/21 via Zoom, and BOS vote will take place on 6/22/21. Learn more about MHSA services, budgets, program outcomes and proposed changes here:

https://www.ochealthinfo.com/sites/hca/files/2021-05/Orange%20County%20MHSA%20Plan%20Update%20FY%202021-22%20DRAFT_0.pdf

Board Date	Item	Amount
6/22/21	Approve amendment 3 to renew contract MA-042-19010120 with Orange County Department of Education for School-Based Violence Prevention Education services, 7/1/21 - 6/30/22	\$1,352,651
6/22/21	Approve amendment 4 to contract MA-042-20011424 with NAMI Orange County for warmline services, 7/1/21 - 6/30/23	\$332,000;
6/22/21	Approve annual updates to Three-Year Program and Expenditure Plan for Mental Health Services Act, Proposition 63 programs and services, 7/1/21 - 6/30/22	N/A

Note: The Agenda Staff Report items listed above are pending Board of Supervisor approval and will be heard on June 22.